

United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Name of Assigned Judge or Magistrate Judge			Milton I	. Shadur	Sitting Judge if Other than Assigned Judge							
CASE NUMBER			02 C	9178	DATE	3/11/	2003					
CASE TITLE				Latroy Hubbard vs. Certified Grocers Midwest, Inc.								
			[In the following box (a) of the motion being pres) indicate the party filing the motion, e.g., plaintiff, defendant, 3rd party plaintiff, and (b) state briefly the nature sented.]								
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(1)	☐ F	Filed r	notion of [use listing	; in "Motion" box al	oove.]							
(2)	☐ F	Brief in support of motion due										
(3)		Answer brief to motion due Reply to answer brief due										
(4)	□ F	Ruling/Hearing on set for at										
(5)		Status hearing[held/continued to] [set for/re-set for] on set for at										
(6)		Pretrial conference[held/continued to] [set for/re-set for] on at										
(7)		Trial[set for/re-set for] on at										
(8)		[Bench/Jury trial] [Hearing] held/continued to at										
(9)		This case is dismissed [with/without] prejudice and without costs[by/agreement/pursuant to] FRCP4(m) Local Rule 41.1 FRCP41(a)(1) FRCP41(a)(2).										
(10)	■ [0 law.	Other	docket entry] Ent	er Memorandum	Order. Affirmativ	e Defense 1 is stric	ken as a matter of					
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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

DOCKETED
MAR 1 3 2003

LATROY HUBBARD,)				
Plaintiff,)))				
v.)	No.	02	C	9178
CERTIFIED GROCERS MIDWEST, INC.,)))				
Defendant.	<u>,</u>				

MEMORANDUM ORDER

In response to this Court's February 26, 2003 memorandum order ("Order"), counsel for Certified Grocers Midwest, Inc. ("Certified Grocers") have filed its Amended Answer and Affirmative Defenses ("ADs") to the employment discrimination action brought against Certified Grocers by its ex-employee Latroy Hubbard. That new pleading has satisfactorily addressed each of the matters referred to in the Order, in particular by sharpening up the AD 1 assertion that part of Hubbard's allegations are assertedly beyond the scope of the charge that he had filed with EEOC.

But having said that, this Court strikes AD 1 as a substantive matter. It has long been the rule in this Circuit that, as recently reconfirmed in Peters v. Renaissance Hotel
Operating Co., 307 F.3d 535, 550 (7th Cir. 2002) (citations and internal quotation marks omitted):

Generally a plaintiff may not bring claims under Title VII that were not originally brought among the charges to the EEOC. This rule both afford[s] an opportunity for the EEOC to settle the dispute between the employee

and employer and put[s] the employer on notice of the charge against it. Nevertheless, this court has allowed plaintiffs to proceed on claims not explicitly set forth in a charge of discrimination if the claim is like or reasonably related to the EEOC charges and the claim in the complaint reasonably [could] be expected to grow out of an EEOC investigation of the charge[]. For purposes of this standard, [t]he claims are not alike or reasonably related unless there is a factual relationship between them. This means that the EEOC charge and the complaint must, at minimum, describe the same conduct and implicate the same individuals.

To the same effect, the Court of Appeals has commented from time to time on the needless waste involved if an employee had to be sent back to EEOC to file an additional charge of discrimination in such circumstances.

In this instance Hubbard's June 21, 2002 EEOC charge (Complaint Ex. B) followed his recitation of assertedly discriminatory treatment on the part of Certified Grocers with this statement:

On June 9, 2002 I was threatened with termination.

According to Complaint ¶¶17-20, within less than two months thereafter, and while the investigation of that charge remained pending, Hubbard was indeed terminated. That squarely fits the quoted language from Peters (and the uniform holdings of other Seventh Circuit cases), and so AD 1 is stricken as a matter of law.

Milton I. Shadur

Senior United States District Judge

Date: March 11, 2003